

In the Claims:

~~19.~~ (twice amended) A method for stimulating erythropoiesis comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a composition comprising a mammalian thrombopoietin protein of at least 323 amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a protein [proteins] comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379; and

(b) [allelic variants of (a); and

(c)] species homologs of (a) [or (b)], wherein said thrombopoietin protein stimulates proliferation or differentiation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle in an amount sufficient to produce an increase in proliferation or differentiation of erythroid cells.

~~9.18.~~ (twice amended) A method for stimulating erythropoiesis comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a composition comprising a mammalian thrombopoietin protein of at least 323 amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a protein [proteins] comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379; and

(b) [allelic variants of (a); and

(c)] species homologs of (a) [or (b)], wherein said thrombopoietin protein stimulates proliferation or differentiation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, and erythropoietin, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle in an amount sufficient to produce an increase in proliferation or differentiation of erythroid cells.

~~20.~~ (twice amended) A method for stimulating erythropoiesis comprising administering [administering] to a

patient in need thereof a composition comprising a mammalian thrombopoietin protein of at least 323 amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a protein [proteins] comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379; and

(b) [allelic variants of (a); and

(c)] species homologs of (a) [or (b)], wherein said thrombopoietin protein stimulates the proliferation or differentiation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, and erythropoietin, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, in an amount sufficient for increasing reticulocyte counts at least 2-fold over baseline reticulocyte counts within fourteen days.

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29. (twice amended) A method for stimulating erythropoiesis comprising administering [administering] to a patient in need thereof a composition comprising a mammalian thrombopoietin protein of at least 323 amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a protein [proteins] comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379; and

(b) [allelic variants of (a); and

(c)] species homologs of (a) [or (b)], wherein said thrombopoietin protein stimulates proliferation or differentiation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, in an amount sufficient for increasing reticulocyte counts at least 2-fold over baseline reticulocyte counts within fourteen days.

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30. (twice amended) A method for stimulating erythropoiesis comprising administering [administering] to a patient in need thereof a composition comprising a mammalian thrombopoietin protein of at least 323 amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

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(a) a protein [proteins] comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379; and

(b) [allelic variants of (a); and

(c)] species homologs of (a) [or (b)], wherein said thrombopoietin proteins stimulates proliferation or differentiation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, and erythropoietin, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle in an amount sufficient for increasing reticulocyte counts at least 2-fold over baseline reticulocyte counts and platelet levels to at least 20,000/mm³ within fourteen days.

Please add the following new claim:

--21. A method for stimulating erythropoiesis comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a composition comprising a mammalian thrombopoietin protein of at least 323 amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a protein comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379; and

(b) species homologs of (a), wherein said thrombopoietin protein stimulates proliferation or differentiation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle in an amount sufficient for increasing reticulocyte counts at least 2-fold over baseline reticulocyte counts and platelet levels to at least 20,000/mm³ within fourteen days.--

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is requested. Claims 9-13, 15-22, and 24-31 are now in the case. Claims 9, 15, 18, 28, 29, and 30 have been amended. Claim 31 has been added. Support for claim 31, is found throughout the